febr. 27, 1945

M E M O for Mr. S.

- Statement

As told you last week, on febr. 9 (late evening) my order to make every possible effort to help your three friends arrived in Northern Italy by special courier.

As you know, evidence against them was great, as very great was the danger against their lives. I told my men that they were authorised to dispose, without further agreement up to 1/m. per person: the imprisoned men had to be helped at any cost and risk.

Necessary contacts vere immediately made. Identifying persons and place of imprisonnement was not easy. Could we obtain deliverence of the three most compromised people the position of the remaining would, by consequence, become very easier and self-supporting.

Merzo and the other two kept their mouth closed. This fact rendered less difficult to minimize existing heavy evidence against them.

As soon as their freedom has been obtained, the promise was made to obtain entrance into Switzerland to a compromised authority & wife that are at disposal to give other sure help of the kind (excluding intervention by german SS) and news on the political situation of neo-fascist and germans in Northern Italy.

This man has also taken un the U-16 and Q-21 matter. As far as I know, Galliano is in Switzerland and today Marzo had an appointment with the authority above mentioned .

Avv. Forta.

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